



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application No.:

09/816,873

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Filed:

March 22, 2001

Confirmation No.:

Sogabe et al.

Inventor(s):

Examiner: Art Unit:

Winder, Patrice L.

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AMENDEMENT/RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED APRIL 5, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Arlington, VA 22313-1450 **RECEIVED**

JUL 1 9 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed July 16, 2003 (Paper No. 6), please amend the above-captioned application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification are reflected in pages 1-24 of the enclosed substitute sheets. Applicant also submits herewith a strikethrough version of the specification indicating the amendments made.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.